



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
Child Support Services Department



STEVEN J. GOLIGHTLY, Ph.D.
Director

FESIA A. DAVENPORT
Chief Deputy Director

April 19, 2011

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**APPROVE RECEIPT AND EXPENDITURE OF FOUR DONATIONS
TOTALING \$23,000 TO COVER CATERING AND OTHER EXPENSES FOR THE CHANGING
FACE OF CHILD SUPPORT EDUCATION FORUM
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS)
(3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

Request to authorize various actions necessary for the County to host The Changing Face of Child Support: Strengthening Children and Families, an educational forum focused on children and families, including space, catering and other arrangements with the California Endowment Center in Los Angeles. The forum will include panel discussions and workshops designed to promote understanding of the evolving mission of child support enforcement and consideration of how child support can be a catalyst to help children and families.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Approve the receipt and expenditure of four private donations, none of which exceed \$10,000.00, for The Changing Face of Child Support: Strengthening Children and Families educational forum (Forum), to be held April 28, 2011, for a total amount not to exceed \$23,000.
2. Authorize the purchase of food and beverages for guests attending the Forum as an exception to Section 5.40.097, Incidental Expenses, of the Los Angeles County Code, which limits such purchases to \$500 per occurrence and \$5,000 annually.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Child Support Services Department (CSSD) is a local child support agency within the meaning of the California Family Code. CSSD is statutorily charged with establishing parentage and establishing and enforcing orders for child support. CSSD is the largest locally operated child support enforcement agency in the nation.

As CSSD continues to look for ways to improve performance, and increase efficiencies, CSSD's Director and Executive Staff have considered whether our core mission, and strategies to carry out that mission, remain relevant today in the midst of the changing composition of the traditional family, dramatic shifts in the economy and the way families and parents support themselves, an ever growing former-assistance case load, and the impact of technological advances on the way we communicate with our customers.

To that end, CSSD like other child support agencies across this State and the nation, finds itself adapting current practices and perceptions to provide better service to our customers, to provide services that go beyond collecting and distributing money, and to reach out to non-custodial parents who have long felt excluded from child support planning processes.

Board approval of the recommended actions will enable the Director of the CSSD to finalize and confirm an agreement with the California Endowment Center to reserve the space needed to host the Changing Face of Child Support forum, and to finalize all necessary arrangements to host this event here in Los Angeles County. This is the first time such an event has been sponsored by a local child support agency in the State of California. We anticipate approximately 250 participants from California and across the country will converge in Los Angeles to discuss the ways in which child support can be a catalyst to help children and families.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended actions are consistent with the principles of the Countywide Strategic Plan Organizational Goal No. 1, "Service Excellence" and Goal No. 2, "Workforce Excellence." This conference will enhance employees' understanding of the cultural diversity within Los Angeles County and ensure improved delivery, efficiency, and effectiveness of services.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

There is no increase in net County cost. Forum expenses will be covered by the Forum's four corporate sponsors. The final cost will be determined by the actual number of attendees. The budget includes food for 250 people, honorariums for some presenters, speaker travel and room accommodations, and other miscellaneous costs. There will be no remaining funds or excess funds, since all donors will pay specified costs directly to each vendor providing each service.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Section 2.4.2 of the County Fiscal Manual delegates to County Department Heads the authority to accept or reject any gift, bequest, devise made to or in favor of the County, so long as the value of the gift does not exceed \$10,000. In this case, no single gift exceeds \$10,000. The amounts of each gift and their respective sponsor is listed below:

Forum Sponsor	Sponsorship Amount
Deloitte	\$1,000
Maximus	\$9,500

ACS \$9,500
IBM \$3,000

Section 2.4.2 of the County Fiscal Manual requires each department to file a quarterly report with the Executive Officer-Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, listing all gifts received, regardless of the amount, and to further file a Statement of Donation receipts and Expenditures with the Auditor Controller's Audit Division. The CSSD will file the required reports as appropriate.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

There will be no impact on any current services or projects as a result of this action.

CONCLUSION

Please instruct the Executive Office-Clerk of the Board to return one copy of the adopted Board action to the CSDS Director.

Respectfully submitted,



STEVEN J. GOLIGHTLY, Ph.D.
Director

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